

The Old Librarian's Almanack

THE OLD LIBRARIAN'S
ALMANACK

AN ASTRONOMICAL DIARY OF COELESTIAL MOTIONS & ASPECTS

FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD CHRIST

1774.

3 Children at School
Sept 3

Being the second after Bissextile or Leap-year; the fourteenth of the Reign of Our most Gracious Sovereign Lord King George III, And from the Creation of the World, according to the best History; 5722. But the 78th from the horrid, Popish, High-Church, Jacobite Plor.

Especially inscribed and dedicated to the Use of Librarians and Bibliothercaries, with many Counsels, on the Proper Care of Books.

Calculated for the Meridian of New Haven, where the Artick Pole is elevated 41 deg. 20 min. But may indifferently serve any part of N. England. Wherein is contained, The Lunations, Eclipses of the Luminaries, Aspects & Geocentrick places of the Planets, the Sun's Rising & Setting, with the Moon's Rising & Setting in the Night time following the Day of the Month, with the moon's place & time of high water, Judgment of the Weather, and other things necessary for such a compofure.

By Phi. 631, 8205.

To which is appended A fure & certain cure for the Bite of a Rattlesnake, made Publick by Abel Puffer of Stoughton.

PRINTED & SOLD BY B. MELLOM, at the Post-Office in New-Haven, 1773.

JW-2-9-10 2

The Old Librarian's Almanack

By

Φιλόβιβλος

A very rare pamphlet first published in New Haven
Connecticut in 1773 and now reprinted
for the first time

The Librarian's Series

Edited by

John Colton Dana and Henry W. Kent

Number one

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Dana/Kent

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By Edmund L. Pearson

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केन्द्रीय पुरातत्व पुस्तकालय

PREFACE

Nathaniel Cutter, Esq., who for over fifty years had practised law in Newburyport, Mass., died on March 9, 1907. His executor asked me to arrange and catalogue the books which composed Mr. Cutter's library. They were in his office in an old brick building on State Street, and if dust and cobwebs may be taken as evidence, many of the books had not been disturbed for thirty or forty years. The library was almost entirely composed of legal works, of no especial interest. There were, in addition, a file of the Newburyport Herald from 1850 to 1895, and a large number of old almanacs. Mr. Cutter seems to have taken great pains to gather almanacs, and his collection has passed into the possession of the Newburyport Antiquarian Society. Acknowledgments are due that Society for permission to make this reprint of the most interesting of the collection. It is the first complete reprint of "The Old Librarian's Almanack",—though one or two extracts from it have appeared in the Boston Evening Transcript.

After a long search I have found record of only one other copy of the Almanack. The "Preliminary Check List of American Almanacs" compiled by Mr. Hugh Alexander Morrison of the Library of Congress,—probably the most complete work of the kind in existence, makes no mention of it. But at the sale of the library of the Hon. John Stephney Wales in New York, November 16, 1896, a copy was sold (for \$14) to Dr. Morris Kimball, of St. Louis. Dr. Kimball writes me, however, that his copy is imperfect,—the title-page and covers are missing.

The question of authorship of the Almanack is the only other point which needs to be mentioned. The identity of "Philobiblos" appears to be established by the fact that the copy owned by Dr. Kimball has in manuscript, on the page for the month of

March, the words "writ by me, Jared Bean". In both that copy and the one which I found in the library of Mr. Cutter, the initials "J. B." are printed at the end of the poem. They have been retained here out of respect for the whim of the old librarian, who evidently rather fancied himself as a versifier.

Jared Bean, whose name today is so nearly forgotten, is mentioned in Sarah Gilman Bigelow's "Literary and Genealogical Annals of Connecticut", (New York, 1870). He was born in New Haven in 1705 or 1706. About 1754 he became curator or librarian of the Connecticut Society of Antiquarians, situated in his native town. In this congenial post he spent, so far as we know, the remainder of his life. His will, to which Mrs. Bigelow had access, was proved in 1788, and that is taken as the approximate date of his death. The old librarian never accepted the results of the American Revolution, which broke out soon after the publication of his Almanack, and toward his "Sovereign Lord", King George III, retained his allegiance to the end. He kept the King's birthday each year; but there is no indication that he took any part in public affairs, or devoted himself to anything but his beloved books. He believed with Sir Thomas Bodley, that a librarian should never marry, and he died a bachelor. His character is so well displayed in his Almanack as to require no other description. Whatever we may think of his ideas of librarianship, his right to his favorite appellation of "Booklover" is not to be denied. Mrs. Bigelow saw his gravestone, in 1869, in the old "East Hill Burying Ground" near New Haven. She writes that the dates and most of the inscription had become obliterated; but that the name "Jared Bean, Philobiblos" remained, together with the epitaph:

Death, thou hast closed ye Book of Life
& set me free from earthly strife,
Ye page is turn'd & I'm at rest
Ye last word said, *Finitum est.*

This bit of doggerel, undoubtedly the work of some professional epitaph monger, would have displeased Jared Bean, though he

PREFACE

might have taken consolation in remembering the verse on Shakespeare's grave. But the headstone, and even the burying ground itself, have disappeared; and an electric car line runs through the place where the old librarian was buried.

Edmund Lester Pearson

Zealandia Lodge

Asheville, N. C.

May 19, 1909

ECLIPSES.

THERE will be but two Eclipses this Year, both of the Sun, and both invisible. The first is March 12th Day, at 5h. 18m. in the Morning. The 2d. is Sept. 5th Day, at 9h. 7m. Afternoon.

A Catalogue of some of the principal fixt Stars, with their Magnitudes, Declinations, and such Abbreviations of their Names as are used in this Almanack.

NAMES	Abbreviations	M	Declinations
Virgin's Spike	Sp. η	1	9 54 S.
Bull's Eye	B. Eye	1	16 00 N.
Capella, or the Goat	Capel.	1	45 44 N.
Middle Star in Orion's Belt	B. Orion	3	1 23 S.
Orion's Right Shoulder	S. Orion	1	7 21 N.
The Great Dog Star, or Sirius	Syr.	1	16 24 S.
Castor	Castor	2	32 23 N.
Procyon, or the Little Dog	Procy.	2	5 49 N.
Pollux	Poll.	2	28 35 N.
Hydra's Heart	Hyd.	1	7 38 S.
Regulus, or Lyon's Heart	Regul.	1	13 8 N.
The Lower of the Pointers	L. Point	2	57 42 N.
The Upper of the Pointers	Up. Point	2	63 3 N.
Deneb, or Lyon's Tail	Deneb.	1	15 54 N.
Arcturus	Arct.	1	20 26 N.
South Ballance	S. Ball.	2	15 2 S.
Formost Guard	F. Guard	2	75 10 N.
Brightest in the Crown	Crown	2	27 32 N.
Brightest in the Serpent's Neck	S. Neck	2	7 11 N.
Antares, or Scorpion's Heart	Ant.	1	25 53 S.
Head of Hercules	Herc.	3	14 40 N.
Orphinous, or Serpent's Head	Orph.	3	12 45 N.
Lyræ, or the Harp	Lyræ	1	38 34 N.
Swan's Bill	S. Bill	3	27 29 N.
Vulture, or Eagle's Heart	Vult.	2	8 15 N.
Swan's Tail	S. Tail	2	44 26 N.
Mouth of Pegasus	Pegas.	3	8 44 N.
Fomelhaut	Fomel.	1	32 53 S.
Cepheus's Knee	Ceph.	3	76 7 N.
Algenib or end Pegasus's wing	Algen.	2	13 51 N.
Pole Star	P. Star	2	88 1 N.
Algol, or Medusa's Head	Algol	2	40 0 N.

R E A D E R.

THIS, THE *First Issue of The Old Librarian's Almanack*, is not Offer'd to the Publick Notice without Diffidence, nor laid before my Learn'd Brethren without hesitation. Indeed, (as it is more especially addressed to my Learn'd Brethren, the Librarians or Bibliothecaries of these Colonies) it now seems a fitting time to make my humble Apologies for the Inadequacy of the Work & to Pray their Kind Indulgence for many failings.

I have striven to set forth correct astronomical Information in those parts of the Almanack where such matters are suitable. The other pages I have devoted to advice and Counsel which I trust may be of service to Librarians & Lovers of True Literature. Of the Compositions in the Poetic Art (those Wanderings on the slopes of Parnassus, if I may so phrase it) which I have essayed, I refrain from speaking. In concluding, I trust I may be allow'd to state that if *The Old Librarian's Almanack* prove useful & pleasing to its Readers, it will be my Privilege to appear before you from year to year. I remain, Your

Humble, Obedient Servant,

Nov. 16, 1773.]

Φιλόβιβλος

Difference of High Water, at several Places from New Haven.

THE fifth column in each left hand monthly page shews the time of high water at New Haven; subtract two hours and fifty therefrom, gives high water at New-York, New-London, Elizabeth-Town-Point, and Tarpaulin-Cove; subtract thirty minutes, gives high water at Boston; add two hours and thirty minutes, gives high water at Philadelphia; add three quarters of an hour, gives high water at Rhode-Island, and in the main ocean.

The Planet VENUS will be Evening Star till the 21st of March; thence Morning Star till the year ends.

Of the four Quarters of the Year, 1774.

The ☿ enters ♈ March 20, 1h. 30m. afternoon; then Spring Quarter begins.
The ☿ enters ♊ June 21, 1h. 31m. afternoon; then Summer Quarter begins.
The ☿ enters ♏ September 23, 0h. 10m. Morning; then Fall Quarter begins.
The ☿ enters ♏ December 21, 3h. 54m. afternoon; then Winter Quarter begins.

I Month Januaty, begins on Saturday.

*Proud leader of the Months, whose ancient name
Recalls the god who fac'd both ways the same,
When thy bleak winds roar down the icy hills,
And men for safely turn to draughts and pills,—
Serenely we may view thy frosty Looks
And seek for calm security in Books;
What reck we then thy blust'ring tempests wild?
Who reads is from all miseries beguil'd.*

Last Quarter 5th Day, 0h. 4m. Afternoon.
New Moon 12th Day 5h. 16m. Morning.
First Quarter 19th Day 11h. 23m. Morning.
Full Moon 27th Day 3h. 30m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c	R	S	F	Sea	B'spl	R	S
17 Circumcision, B Eye so. 9h. 33m	7	27	5	2M28	12	8	0
28 2d Sunday past Christmas	7	26	5	3	11	5mp	51
32 Pinching cold weather,	7	26	5	3	54	18	15
43 or I wonder,	7	25	5	4	33	1u	48
54 Perhaps a small snow. ff. 2l ♀	7	25	5	5	24	15	36
65 Epiphany. B Eye so. 9 h. 11 m.	7	24	5	6	4	29	43
76 Light not a candle within the	7	23	5	6	52	14m	5
87 library.	7	23	5	7	44	28	39
98 1st Sunday after Epiphany.	7	22	5	8	42	13	19
102 ☐ h ♀ B Perigee	7	22	5	9	37	27	56
113 Capell so. 9h. 27m High Tides.	7	21	5	10	36	12h	44
124 I guess there will be a storm of	7	20	5	11	37	47	14
135 snow about this time, then clear	7	19	5	0A	33	11	21
146 Men know Achilles bold ☐ h ♂ cold	7	18	5	1	27	24	45
157 For of him has Homer ff ♂	7	17	5	2	22	9X	3
168 2d Sund p. Epip. (told ☐ l ♂	7	17	5	3	10	22	23
172 B Eye so. 8h. 24m. Δ ☉ h	7	16	5	3	55	5Y	22
183 On gallows fifty cubits high	7	15	5	4	43	18	39
194 Hang the wretch and let him die,	7	14	5	5	23	0	30
205 A dozen of my books he stole,	7	13	5	6	9	12	46
216 May God have mercy on his soul.	7	12	5	7	5	24	55
227 The cold abates a little,	7	11	5	7	46	6H	51
238 3d Sund. p. Epi. then clouds up for	7	10	5	8	30	18	35
242 Capell so. 8h. 31m. B Apo. snow	7	9	5	9	25	16	26
253 Adversity tends to make * ☉ 2l	7	8	5	10	8	12	27
264 men wise.	7	7	5	10	54	24	32
275 Warm, pleasant weather for	7	6	5	11	55	6Q	44
286 winter, but will not last long.	7	5	5	0M	24	19	8
297 Capell, so. 8h. 12m.	7	4	5	1	3	1mp	45
308 Septuagesim K. CHAR. Decol 1648	7	3	5	1	45	14	43
312 Regul so. 12h. 58m. grows cold	7	2	5	2	39	27	48

About this Time prepare for the Annual Examination. Close your Library not later than August 1, having given due Notice that all Books must be returned under Pain of Expulsion. See that every Book the Library owns is in its proper place on the Shelf by the first Day of the Month. It will perchance be necessary for you to seek some of them Yourself, taking care, at the same time, to administer a Reproof to the delinquent Ones.

Covers should be examined; and all those worn and tattered should be replaced. Never let a Book leave the Library without a stout paper Cover to protect it against the Abuses of the careless.

Paste is to be preferred to Glue in affixing these. To one cupful of Flour add nine spoonfuls of Water, and a little Vinegar. A half-ounce of Oil of Spearmint will be found an admirable Preservative.

Look to it that each Book is numbered in accordance with its corresponding place on the shelf. During the six Weeks that the Library remains closed to all but Yourself there is an excellent Opportunity to compile your Catalogue.

Examine your Books with great care to see that none have crept in which have an immoral or debasing Character, or which contain Pernicious and unsound Theology. A few Books of Moral tendency may be included for the Young. Their Elders will choose these, for surely children are not to be permitted in the Library themselves, to the disturbance of all others.

Cast out and destroy any Book which is merely frivolous and empty of all serious meaning, for the true object of Literature is to instil Wisdom and to lead to Habits of grave Meditation, and there always are those whose vapid Minds will feed, if it be allowed, on nothing but that which amuses for the Moment. Such must not be abetted.

Make the most of every Moment during the period of the Annual Examination, for you can then be assured that the Books are safe and well cared for, rather than spread abroad and distributed Hither and Thither.

VIII Month August begins on Monday.

Comes now great August & the Dog Star burns,
 From sultry heat without the Scholar turns
 To where his Books in well-appointed rows
 Assure true Solace, & the Mind's repose.
 Scan well your books & heed the warning Glass
 That marks the flying hours as they pass,
 Let no intruder interrupt your Toil,
 And no base volume your collection spoil.

New Moon 7th Day, 7h. 5m. Morning.
 First Quarter 14th Day, 6h. 0m. Afternoon.
 Full Moon 21st Day, 9h. 57m. Morning.
 Last Quarter 28th Day, 7h. 4m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c RDS F. Sea & spl. R & S

1	2	Lammas Day.	Something dry	4	5	4	8	7	10	5	II	49	0	17
2	3	7's rise 11h. 15m.		4	5	5	8	8	0	17	47	0	56	
3	4	Foggy mornings and hot days.		4	5	6	8	8	51	29	40	1	30	
4	5	Sp M'sets 9h. 38m.	• Apogee	4	5	7	8	9	37	11	69	29	2	18
5	6	S. Bill So. 10h. 24m.		4	5	8	8	10	26	23	18	3	23	
6	7	Hot weather day & night	☐ ☼ ☿ ♄	4	5	9	8	11	8	5	50	11	4	18
7	8	10th Sunday past Trinity.	Sharp	4	0	8	11	11	51	17	10	• sets		
8	2	thunder and but little rain.		5	1	7	0	A.	30	29	21	7	47	
9	3	The agile bookworm eats, conceal'd		5	2	7	1	1	11	11	45	8	30	
10	4	from sight, Also the prowling mouse		5	3	7	1	5	1	24	24	9	5	
11	5	abhors the light, But be as-*	♂ ♀	5	4	7	2	32	7	2	22	9	35	
12	6	sur'd that Philobiblos knows, The		5	5	7	3	12	20	46	10	3		
13	7	Cloudy and perhaps rain. hel		5	6	7	3	58	4	11	10	10	37	
14	8	11th Sunday past Trinity.	lish	5	7	7	4	47	18	5	11	10		
15	2	Cockroach is the chief of foes.		5	8	7	5	45	2	7	18	Morn.		
16	3	S. C. Litchfield.		5	9	7	6	34	6	44	0	3		
17	4	Likely for plenty of rain ss ♀ ♄		5	10	7	7	36	1	18	0	50		
18	5	about this time. ss ☼ ♄	• Per.	5	11	7	8	31	15	58	1	48		
19	6	Vult. So. 9h. 45m. (10h. 10m.)		5	12	7	9	35	0	36	2	50		
20	7	Syr. rises 3h. 35m.	7's rise	5	14	7	10	36	15	9	3	58		
21	8	12th Sunday past Trinity.	Cloudy	5	15	7	11	30	29	28	• rise			
22	2	and signs of rain, then clears off		5	16	7	0	M	22	13	32	7	30	
23	3	S. C. Fairfield.	cool.	5	17	7	1	14	27	21	8	12		
24	4	Let no intruders put your ease		5	18	7	2	0	10	50	8	50		
25	5	in doubt, Lock fast the door &		5	20	7	2	50	24	0	9	30		
26	6	keep the rascals out.		5	21	7	3	38	6	57	10	0		
27	7	Cloudy and likely for an eas-		5	22	7	4	26	19	26	10	40		
28	8	13th Sunday past Trinity.	terly	5	24	7	5	12	1	48	11	12		
29	2	storm.		5	26	7	6	2	13	53	11	47		
30	3	S. C. N. Haven. 7's rise 9h. 33m.		5	28	7	6	49	25	57	Morn.			
31	4	Serene and clear.		5	30	7	7	39	7	53	0	20		

Your Library is now closed, and so it will remain for six Weeks, or perchance, two Months. These be Halcyon Days. The Annoyances to which you are subjected throughout all the Year vanish away, and there is naught to Disturb you.

Master Enoch Sneed (for whom I am ever ready to Testify my Reverence) has written: I am so be-pestered and bothered by persons insinuating themselves into the Library to get Books that frequently I am near to my Wit's end. There have been days when I was scarce able to read for two Hours consecutive without some Donkey breaking in upon my Peace. Only the thought of the Annual Examination sustains me. Then, forsooth, I can defy them all and read in some Security.

The necessary Tasks of the Examination (which I described last month) are easily performed in a Week, or less. Indeed, if you omit the preparation of the Catalogue (and worthy Master Enoch Sneed deems it better not to compile a Catalogue, both as an unavailing Bother and moreover as the absence of it makes you more Secure in your Office) then, in this case, you have a goodly season for the Relishment of your Books.

How agreeable, on these sultry Days, is the Library! The rays of the Sun, which descend so fierce outdoors, are tempered inside its walls, and your Footsteps, as you walk hither and yon among the Alcoves, echo loudly. A lonely Sound, say you? Not so, the Lover of Books is not affected by Loneliness when he is encompassed by his Friends. On every Shelf they stand, none missing (I hope truly) and all at your service.

Parents of Children are said to be more delighted in their possession when the offspring are safe in their Beds, than at any other time. Tho' I trust I may be pardoned for making a seeming Comparison between Books and such a subject as Children, yet it may be said that it is true of the Librarian that he is most content when all his Books are in the Library under his protection. For he can be no lover of books if he be at ease when his books are absent from the Library.

IX Month September begins on Thursday.

September, seventh Month, in ancient phrase,
And now the ninth as we compute the days;
Abundant harvests bring the Farmer joy,
And School's grim tasks recall the idle Boy.
'Mid cooler days & early setting Sun
We see th' autumnal Equinox begun.
Upon the hearth a cheerful blaze delights
And Malleor tells of Arthur & his Knights.

New Moon 5th. Day, 9h. 7m. Afternoon.
First Quarter 13th. Day, 0h. 30m. Morning.
Full Moon 20th. Day, 8h. 8m. Afternoon.
Last Quarter 17th. Day, 1h. 50m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c RDS F. Sea & spl. RDS

1.5 Pleasant weather * 24 ♂ • Apo	5 31 7	8	28 19 50	1	4
2.6 7's rise 9h. 22m.	5 32 7	9	11 1 49	1	54
3.7 ☉ with ♀ Arct. sets 10h. 40m.	5 33 7	9	56 13 47	2	50
4.8 14th Sunday p. Trin. Perhaps a cold	5 34 7	10	39 6 1	3	50
5.2 storm with high Dog Days end	5 35 7	11	17 8 22	• sets	
6.3 S. C. Hartf E. winds then ss h ♀	5 36 7	11	57 20 55	6	54
7.4 clear with westerly winds ss ☉ ♀	5 38 7	0A.37	3 52	7	30
8.5 In any land where I am king	5 39 7	1	23 16 58	8	2
9.6 Who steals a book has got to swing.	5 40 7	2	4 0 25	8	34
10.7 7's rise 8h. 53m. ♀ rises 3h.	5 42 7	2	52 14 14	9	15
11.8 15th Sunday past Trinity. (18m.	5 43 7	3	45 28 14	10	2
12.2 Brisk S. wind with plenty of	5 45 7	4	38 12 33	10	47
13.3 rain, or I mistake. • Perigee.	5 46 7	5	35 26 53	11	40
14.4 Commencement New Haven.	5 48 7	6	35 11 31	Morn.	
15.5 And he who marks or tears the leaves	5 49 7	7	34 25 59	0	46
16.6 A wholesome flogging he receives.	5 50 7	8	43 10 24	1	50
17.7 Pegas. S. 9h 52m.	5 51 7	9	31 24 41	2	54
18.8 16th Sunday past Trinity.	5 52 7	10	24 8 39	3	32
19.2 Cloudy dark air followed with	5 54 7	11	16 22 29	• rise	
20.3 SC. Windham. high wind * ☉ ♂	5 56 7	0M 2	5 54	6	35
21.4 thunder and it may hail & rain.	5 58 7	0	53 19 10	7	20
22.5 King George 3d. crown'd 1761.	5 59 7	1	40 1 59	7	52
23.6 Cool nights, likely for frost.	6 0 6	2	29 14 36	8	30
24.7 Arct. sets 9h 16m.	6 2 6	3	18 27 1	9	4
25.8 17th Sund. past Trin. High winds	6 3 6	4	4 9 16	9	44
26.2 and likely for rain. ♂ ☉	6 5 6	4	55 21 28	10	32
27.3 S. C. N London. Inf. C. Litchfield.	6 7 6	5	45 3 25	11	21
28.4 B. E. rises 9h. 7m. • Apogee.	6 8 6	6	31 15 27	Morn	
29.5 St. Michael.	6 9 6	7	19 27 32	0	50
30.6 Clear weather ends the month.	6 10 6	8	4 9 42	1	24

Of the Enemies of Books I especially esteem the Cockroach. That worthy Librarian, Master Enoch Sneed (for whom I profess my reverent Admiration), would have it that the Domestic Mouse, building her Nest, as she will, 'mid the Tatters of our most precious Volumes, more fairly merits the name of Chief Destroyer. But though it be true that the Ravage wrought by the Mouse is compleat, yet she & her Kind may be exterminated, & the Library rid of her Presence with no great Ado.

But the Cockroach, more elusive in his Habits, & not less insidious in his Character, spreads destruction wherever his footsteps may wander, & he is a greater Bother to remove, in view of the Celerity of his Movements, & the amazing Fecundity with which he reproduces his Kind.

Some may question if the Nature of the Destruction wrought by this Pestilential Insect be of serious import, but I do earnestly Assure all such that I have witnessed with my own eyes appalling Injuries inflicted on the most Precious Books in my Custody, & these Injuries, I am convinc'd, were justly chargeable to this hardshelled Rogue who Scuttles about the Book Shelves, & owns no restraint upon his ungovernable Appetite. For the Cockroach will so gnaw & devour the Bindings, so prey upon the leavs of old Books that I have been Moved nearly to an access of Tears when I have gaz'd upon the Ruin which he has left after him. With devilish Cunning he will come at only the rare and costly Volumes, picking them out, it would seem, as by the leadership of Satan, & visiting upon them his own foul Mutilation.

I have found the following Preparation to be highly serviceable: To three minims of distilled Hen-Bane, add four drops of the Tincture of Saffron. Take this Mixture & combine it with half a gill of the Liquor which comes from boyling a peck of common Tansy. After allowing it to cool, add four great spoonfuls of pure Vinegar, a pinch of powdered Rhubarb, & the Juce of a score of Mulberries, heated well. The resulting Compound should be kept in a Jar, tightly seal'd, & sprinkled on the Book Shelves, or wherever the Enemy are seen.

VI Month June begins on Wednesday

*With June at last the longest days appear,
The welcome climax of the growing year,
When blossoms carpet all the bills & fields
And blooming Flora rich abundance yields.
Tho' joyous Nature calls you to herself
Enduring joys are rang'd upon the shelf;
And Puck & Pyramus a vision weave
In woods near Athens on Midsummer's Eve.*

Last Quarter 1st Day 4h. 35m. Morning.

New Moon 9th Day 0h. 57m. Morning.

First Quarter 17th Day 2h. 10m. Morning.

Full Moon 23d Day 6h. 50m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c R S F. Sea D'spl R S

14	Flying clouds and some rain.	4 34 8	5	55	15	19	0	37
25	then clears off hot. as. ♀ ♂	4 33 8	6	45	28	32	1	4
36	Regul sets 15h.	4 33 8	7	31	11	20	1	40
47	☉ with ♀ Arcd. S. 9h. 16m. King	4 32 8	8	14	23	54	2	16
58	1st Sund. p. Trin. (Geo. 3d. b. 1738)	4 32 8	9	0	6	13	2	56
62	Reflect before you turn the page.	4 32 8	9	49	18	45	3	27
73	h sets 12h. 45m.	4 32 8	10	35	0	12	4	0
84	Showers with heat and thunder.	4 31 8	11	19	11	41	4	40
95	F. Guard N. 9h. 39m. ☉ Apogee	4 31 8	0A.	122	24	sets		
106	S. Ball. So. 9h. 25m.	4 31 8	0	56	56	0	8	20
117	Sp M's sets 2h 20m. Serene ♂ ♀	4 31 8	1	36	16	50	9	8
128	2d Sund. p. Trin. pleasant weather	4 31 8	2	24	28	33	9	54
132	☉ 18° in M	4 31 8	3	8	10	39	10	30
143	Inf. C. N. London. Arcd. set 3h 48m	4 31 8	3	50	23	51	11	14
154	The cow her infant son would find	4 30 8	4	29	5	21	11	50
165	He's gone away some books to bind.	4 30 8	5	12	18	6	Morn.	
176	Signs of rain which may fail.	4 30 8	5	52	1	20	0	16
187	☉ Lat. 2° N.	4 30 8	6	32	14	55	0	40
198	3d Sund p. Trinity Hot nights	4 30 8	7	20	28	59	1	20
202	Stand not outdoors, gaping like a	4 30 8	8	9	13	21	2	1
213	Ninny at Nature. She will take	4 30 8	9	3	28	2	2	46
224	care of herself. Read your books.	4 30 8	9	56	12	58	3	30
235	Very high tides this full. ● Per.	4 30 8	10	57	27	50	rise	
246	St. John Baptist. Thunder & rain	4 30 8	11	56	12	51	8	7
257	Ant. So. 10h. 1m. about this	4 30 8	1M	0	27	43	9	0
268	4th Sunday past Trinity. time if	4 31 8	2	11	22	23	9	52
272	☉ so. 3h. 20m. I mistake not.	4 31 8	2	55	26	40	10	20
283	Inf. C. Windbam.	4 31 8	3	47	10	41	11	4
294	St. Peter. Lyrae So. 11h. 58m. (rain)	4 31 8	4	37	24	18	11	44
305	Cloudy and signs of a settled	4 31 8	5	24	7	33	Morn	

So far as your Authority will permit of it, exercise great Discrimination as to which Persons shall be admitted to the use of the Library. For the Treasure House of Literature is no more to be thrown open to the ravages of the unreasoning Mob, than is a fair Garden to be laid unprotected at the Mercy of a Swarm of Beasts.

Question each Applicant closely. See that he be a Person of good Reputation, scholarly Habits, sober and courteous Demeanour. Any mere Trifler, a Person that would Dally with Books, or seek in them shallow Amusement, may be Dismiss'd without delay.

No Person younger than 20 years (save if he be a Student, of more than 18 years, and vouched by his Tutor) is on any pretext to enter the Library. Be suspicious of Women. They are given to the Reading of frivolous Romances, and at all events, their presence in a Library adds little to (if it does not, indeed, detract from) that aspect of Gravity, Seriousness and Learning which is its greatest Glory. You will make no error in excluding them altogether, even though by that Act it befall that you should prohibit from entering some one of those Excellent Females who are distinguished by their Wit and Learning. There is little Chance that You or I, Sir, will ever see such an One.

Let no Politician be in your Library, nor no man who Talks overmuch. It will be difficult for him to observe Silence, and he is objectionable otherwise, as well. No Astrologer, Necromancer, Charlatan, Quack, nor Humbug; no Vendor of Nostrums, nor Teacher of false Knowledge, no fanatick Preacher nor Refugee. Admit no one of loose or evil Life; prohibit the Gamester, the Gypsy, the Vagrant. Allow none who suffers from an infectious Disease; and none whose Apparel is so Gaudy or Eccentric as to attract the Eye. Keep out the Light-witted, the Shallow, the Base and Obscene. See to it that none enter who are Senile, and none who are immature in their Minds, even tho' they have reach'd the requir'd Age.

VII Month July begins on Friday

*As mighty Caesar like the burning Sun
Flam'd o'er the nations where his course was run,
So thou, his namesake, in th' effulgent sky
Art conqueror, imperial July!
The world without is hot, thy fi'ry breath
Consumes the tender plants in early death.
The wise will shun the overheated air,
In shady alcoves find seclusion fair.*

New Moon 8th Day 3h. 57m. Afternoon.

First Quarter 16th Day 11h. 32m. Forenoon.

Full Moon 23d Day 1h. 54m. Morning.

Last Quarter 30th Day 3l. 27m. Morning.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c RDS F.Sea D'spl RDS

16	Cool enough in the library.	4 31 8	6	10	20	23	0	14
27	V. B. V. Mary * ☉ ♀ 8	4 31 8	6	57	28	58	0	47
38	5th Sund. p. Trinity. ☉ 16 in ♀	4 32 8	7	43	15	17	1	12
42	Arct. sets 2h. 26m. ☉ with ♀	4 32 8	8	30	27	19	1	48
53	Let no politician in the li	4 33 8	9	15	9	9	2	24
64	brary, be'll seek old schemes	4 33 8	10	1	20	53	3	0
75	Cloudy and ☉ Apogee. to fool	4 34 8	10	51	26	40	3	50
86	signs of rain new people	4 34 8	11	36	14	21	sets	
97	☉ Lat. 40. South.	4 35 8	0A.24	26	5	8	1	
108	6th Sunday past Trinity. ♂ rises 2h	4 35 8	1	5	8	4	8	45
112	Ant. So. 8h. 49m. ss. ☉ ♂	4 36 8	1	45	19	59	9	20
123	Better the library be clos'd	4 36 8	2	27	2	15	10	0
134	Than to the ignorant expos'd	4 37 8	3	8	14	52	10	34
145		4 37 8	3	47	27	43	11	6
156	Here. So. 9h. 25m. * ☉ ♀	4 38 8	4	29	10	55	11	37
167	Hot weather and thunder in	4 39 8	5	10	24	29	Morn	
178	7th Sunday past Trinity many	4 40 8	5	58	8	25	0	4
182	Sp. ♀ sets 10h. 50m. places	4 41 8	6	48	22	39	0	35
193	Lyr. So. 10h. 34m.	4 41 8	7	44	7	6	1	26
204	Commencement Cambridge.	4 42 8	8	38	21	48	2	16
215	♀ rises 1h 55m. ♂ ♂ ♀ ☉ Per.	4 43 8	9	42	6	41	3	14
226	Very hot with sharp thunder,	4 44 8	10	42	21	28	4	14
237	rain, wind and hail, then more	4 45 8	11	44	6	14	rise	
248	8th Sunday past Trinity. cool	4 46 8	0M40	20	46	8	16	
252	Sp. ♀ sets 10h. 20m. Dog Days b.	4 47 8	1	32	5	0	9	0
263	☉ ♀ You have conquer'd in	4 48 8	2	23	18	53	9	40
274	☉ ♂ the race, when eo'ry	4 49 8	3	14	2	30	10	16
285	volume's in its place.	4 50 8	4	2	15	47	10	56
296	Swelling white clouds & many	4 51 8	4	47	28	41	11	20
307	small showers and lightning in	4 52 8	5	35	11	21	11	50
318	9th Sunday past Trinity. evening	4 53 8	6	27	23	42	Morn	

ARS BIBLIOTHECARI

First of all matters, 'tis your greatest need
To read unceasing & unceasing read;
When one Book's ended, with a mind unvert
Turn then your whole Attention to the Next.
Let naught intrude; to all the World be blind,
And chase each vain allurements from your Mind.
Be also deaf: 'tis well to turn the Lock,
And let who will the outer portal knock.
Behold in Books your Raiment & your Bread,
So, lacking Books, you're neither warm'd nor fed;
Chuse then with care, repudiate the Chaff,
Or see corruption spoil the better half;
For one base volume spreads the Poison through,—
A single Traitor can a Host undo.
As Books, like Men, go better neatly drest,
Let Paper, Print, & Binding be the Best.
Your Books obtain'd, behold the Problem rise
How best secure them from unworthy eyes;
Or, graver yet, to guard lest you're bereft
By Fire, Worms, or (absit omen!) Theft.
Remember this: they're safe upon the shelf,
When none has access thither but yourself.
As you to guard them best are qualify'd,
So you to read them, clearly 'tis imply'd.
Be vigilant your Treasury to keep,
In watchful care know neither rest nor sleep;
All other Readers better far keep out
Than put the safety of your Books in doubt.
And first, or last, this Precept ever heed:
To read unceasing, and unceasing read.

J. B.

IV Month April begins on Friday.

*Fair April, slander'd Month, whose balmy days
Less censure oft deserve, & more of praise,
A wayward maiden fain to weep, or sing,—
The sweet enchantress of the budding Spring,
'Neath thy soft rule what book so fit to read
(When seeking rest by brook & verdant mead)
As thine, old Flaccus, safe from War's alarm
And hous'd in plenty on thy Sabine farm!*

Last Quarter 3d Day, 1h. 8m Afternoon.

New Moon 10th. Day, 7h. 30m. Afternoon.

First Quarter 18th Day, 8h. 17m. Afternoon.

Full Moon 26th Day, 4h. 22m. Morning.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c			RDS F.Sea			D'spl RDS		
16	Good Friday	☉ Perigee	5 44	7 3	30 15	7 3	11 0	
217	Deneb so. 10h. 52m.		5 43	7 4	27 29	38 11	50	
3	EASTER SUNDAY	Cloudy & raw	5 42	7 5	28 13	h 58	Morn.	
4	27*'s set 10h. 6m.	cold	5 40	7 6	26 28	18 0	3 30	
53	Inf. C.N. Haven	Falling weather	5 39	7 7	23 12	17 1	19	
64	8 sets 70h. 6m.		5 38	7 8	15 25	56 2	10	
7	The books within the sluggard's house		5 36	7 9	7 9	27 3	8	
86	Are chewed to pieces by the mouse.		5 35	7 9	54 22	20 4	6	
9	77*'s set 9h. 34m.		5 34	7 10	35 4	58 5	0	
10	1st Sunday p. Easter.	Pleasant	5 32	7 11	24 17	33 7	sets	
11	2 showers and warm	♂ ☉ ♀ ☿ ♀ ☿ ♀ ☿	5 31	7 0A.	6 29	51 7	0	
12	1 Chertf. for the season	♂ ☉ ♀ ☿	5 30	7 0	53 11	57 7	55	
13	4 h so. 10h. 2m.		5 28	7 1	39 23	55 8	55	
14	Dust your Books	☉ Apogee	5 27	7 2	25 5	48 9	56	
15	And mind your Business		5 25	7 3	16 17	44 10	40	
16	Somewhat cold, clouds ss.	♂ ♀	5 24	7 4	7 29	38 11	30	
17	2d Sunday past Easter.	up for	5 23	7 4	52 11	63 3	Morn.	
18	2 Sp. W so. 11h. 7m.	a storm	5 21	7 5	45 24	39 0	18	
19	3 Inf. C. Fairfield.		5 20	7 6	26 6	6 0	58	
20	4 The candle's flame with care		5 18	7 7	10 18	43 1	32	
21	5 employ for light; The day's yours		5 17	7 7	52 1	49 2	12	
22	6 time to read; for sleep, the night.		5 16	7 8	37 14	51 2	50	
23	7 St. George. Drying & W Winds.		5 15	7 9	20 28	24 3	34	
24	8 3d Sund. p. Easter.	♂ ♂ ♀	5 14	7 10	4 12	17 3	59	
25	27*'s set 8h. 44m.		5 13	7 10	49 26	27 4	34	
26	3 Smoky warm weather and dry,		5 12	7 11	41 10	51 4	rise	
27	4 but likely for rain & thunder,		5 10	7	OM31	25 29	7 52	
28	5 Full Tides Tho' spiders build	☉ Pe.	5 9	7 1	28 10	17 8	56	
29	6 Syr. s 9h. across the shelf,	Admit	5 8	7 2	24 24	58 10	0	
30	7 no others but yourself.		5 6	7 3	28 9	34 10	57	

Towards the Persons who frequent your Library maintain a courteous Demeanour, but the utmost Vigilance. For as it is your duty to guard well the Books which are the Riches of your Treasury, so you cannot afford to relax those Restrictions which may save you from Despoilment and the most grievous Loss. The Biblioklept or Thief of Books is your eternal Foe.

John Milton truly wrote: "For Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a potency of Life in them to be as active as that Soul was whose Progeny they are; nay, they do preserve as in a Viall the purest efficacy and extraction of that living Intellect that bred them".

This, then, is the Value of a Book in the Mind of that great Poet. How far beyond mere Gold or Silver is the worth of a Book, & how Filthy & Base the Act of one who steals a Book! But there be sneeking unutterable Villains who will enter a Library, and in their furtive & Detestable fashion carry from it one of its Treasures!

And what Condemnation shall befit the accurst Wretch (for he cannot justly claim the title of Man) who pilfers and purloins for his own selfish ends such a precious article as a Book? I am minded of the Warning display'd in the Library of the Popish Monastery of San Pedro at Barcelona. This is the version English'd by Sir Matthew Mahan, who saw it writ in Latin in the Monastery, as he himself describes in his learn'd Book, "Travels in Spanish Countries, 1712".

The Warning reads thus: "For him that stealeth a Book from this Library, let it change to a Serpent in his hand and rend him. Let him be struck with Palsy, and all his Members blasted. Let him languish in Pain, crying aloud for Mercy and let there be no surcease to his Agony till he sink to Dissolution. Let Book-worms gnaw his Entrails in token of the Worm that dieth not, and when at last he goeth to his final Punishment let the Flames of Hell consume him for ever and aye".

V Month May begins on Sunday.

*Now May her mantle spreads oe'r hill & plain,
And soft warm days succeed to April's rain.
The feather'd songsters chirp about the nest,
And Nature puts forth Beauties never guess'd.
In each new leaf that burgeons on the tree
A page of Nature's manuscript we see;
While fields & meadows ev'ry day unroll
Like cryptick writing on a Wizard's scroll.*

Last Quarter 2d Day 7h. 23m. Afternoon.
New Moon 10th Day 10h. 10m. Morning.
First Quarter 18th Day 6h. 14m. Afternoon.
Full Moon 25th Day 0h. 8m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c R O S F. Sea D's pl R D S

1 B 4th Sund. p. Easter. St. Phil. & Jam.	5	5	7	4	28	24	3	11	48
2 2 Cloudy and I guess rain.	5	4	7	4	26	8	15	Morn	
3 3 ♀ rises 3h. 30m. [v. c. h ♂	5	2	7	6	17	22	4	0	59
4 4 Gen. Elect. Newport. Pleasant	5	1	7	7	10	5	42	1	34
5 5 Sp. M so. 10h. 23m. Season.	5	0	7	7	56	18	55	2	20
6 6 Who stealeth books his sin is great	4	5	8	8	44	1	49	3	0
7 7 He ne'er can enter Heaven's gate.	4	5	8	9	30	14	35	3	36
8 8 Rog. Sunday. A good season for	4	5	8	10	13	26	43	4	8
9 2 7* s. 7h. 50m. reading Theocritus.	4	5	8	11	1	8	56	4	40
10 3 Showery & a grow Δ ☉ h	4	5	8	11	45	20	46	5	sets
11 4 ing Season. ☉ Apogee. V. c. h ♀	4	5	8	0A.31	2	II	37	8	0
12 5 Elect. Hartford. Ascen. Day.	4	5	8	1	20	14	29	8	50
13 6 Sp. M so. 9h. 52m.	4	5	8	2	7	26	24	9	44
14 7 Somewhat cool & windy.	4	5	8	2	57	8	40	10	29
15 8 Sunday past Ascension.	4	4	9	3	41	19	56	11	12
16 2 Days 14h. 24m. long.	4	4	8	4	28	2	11	58	
17 3 Deneb so. 8h.	4	4	7	5	11	14	14	Morn	
18 4 Perhaps an N. E. storm near by.	4	4	6	5	56	21	57	0	34
19 5 Read ev'ry book but not in haste	4	4	5	6	36	9	11	12	
20 6 For rapid reading's only waste.	4	4	4	7	19	23	5	1	54
21 7 h sets 1h 56m. ☉ in II	4	4	3	7	59	6	44	2	30
22 8 Whitsunday. ss. ☉ 2	4	4	2	8	43	20	41	3	7
23 2 Regul. sets 12h. 44m.	4	4	1	9	33	5	11	0	3
24 3 Something hot & likely for rain and	4	4	0	10	22	19	35	4	27
25 4 Gen Elect. Boston. thunder.	4	4	0	11	17	4	16	5	rise
26 5 Sp. M so. 8h. 12m. Full Tides ☉ P	4	3	9	8	0M	16	19	6	8
27 6 Arc. so. 9h. 48m. V. c. h ♀	4	3	8	1	19	4	1	9	17
28 7 Serene and pleasant.	4	3	7	2	19	18	55	10	14
29 8 Trinity Sunday K. CHA. 2d resto.	4	3	6	3	17	3	27	11	9
30 2 ☉ so. 3h. 29m. Heat	4	3	5	4	13	17	44	11	52
31 3 increases as the month ends.	4	3	5	5	7	1	47	Morn	

The Librarian may be justly compar'd with him who keeps an Armoury of Weapons; for as the Keeper doth neither forge the implements of War, nor employ them on the field of Battle, so neither doth the Librarian compose the learn'd Works which are under his charge, nor use their wisdom in his own especial interest.

But like that other Keeper, it is his Duty to see that his Armoury (which is the Library) be well stock'd with the fittest Weapons, and that they be put into the hands of such as can use them at the proper time.

The Metaphor need not stop at this, neither, for even as the Weapons of the Armoury are unfitted for the hands of all, so the Books (the Weapons over which the Librarian is Custodian) are oftentimes dangerous & harmful if they come to the hands of persons ill-fitted to peruse them.

Mr. Pope (an able poet, tho' a Papist) warns us that:

A little learning is a dangerous thing!

Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.

The wisdom of such advice, & the folly of not observing it may be seen now-a-days, when Demagogues and others of shallow intellect seek to stir up sedition & revolt. Whence it appears that it is as *Custos Librorum* (as the Ancients call'd him) or Guardian of the Books, that the Librarian exercises his true function.

I am sensible that there will be some who will enquire as to what qualities should be possess'd by him who stands thus as Guardian of the Books. These may think (if perchance the hasty and frivolous workings of their ill-taught minds may be so dignified as to term it thinking) that it matters little what the character of the Librarian be.

Such as these cannot too soon become aware of their error. For how can it be possible that a man can act as Warder of the accumulated record of the world's wisdom, piety, learning, & experience, and hold the same in necessary reverence, if he be not a person of sober and Godly life, learn'd, virtuous, chaste, moral, frugal and temperate?

This should be the character of the Librarian, and it is such as he that I would extol, as through these pages, I offer for your benefit, the results of twenty years of labour in our Honourable Profession.

II Month February, begins on Tuesday.

When February's sleet & fogs abound
 And melting Snow lies tramp'd on the ground,
 When all the ways are dismal, foul & drear,
 In Books behold a recompense & cheer.
 If pelting rain or windy tempest rage
 All's fair & calm upon the printed Page,
 Tho' boist'rous elements may rule the scene,
 Look to your shelves! there's Peace & Joy serene!

Last Quarter 3d Day, 9h. 20m. Afternoon.
 New Moon 10th Day 4h. 13m. Afternoon.
 First Quarter 18th Day 6h. 40m. Morning.
 Full Moon 26th Day 5h. 37m. Morning.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c ROS F. Sea D'spl RDS

13	△	h	8	♀	Days 9h. 56m.	7	25	3	22	11	Ω	39	9	56
24	P.	V.	M.	7*	f. 1h. 51m.	long	7	15	4	08	25	29	11	10
35	Snow or cold rain or both,	after	7	05	5	05	9m	27	Morn					
46	which, pleasant and warm.		6	59	6	5	55	23	29	0	18			
57	7*'s set 1h. 39m.	⊙ Perigee	6	58	6	40	7	54	1	21				
68	Sexagesima. B. Eye sets 1h. 56m.		6	56	7	34	22	50	2	19				
72	Syr. so. 9h. 10m.		6	55	8	29	79	46	3	19				
83	S. C. Litchfield Chilly winds		6	54	9	25	22	41	4	8				
94	which blow up clouds & a storm		6	52	10	21	6	16	5	19				
105	& I think a tedious one * 9l 8		6	51	11	17	20	20	sets					
116	but likely to be warm & 9l 8		6	49	0A	6	3	33	6	18				
127	pleasant after it. * 9l 8		6	48	0	54	16	30	7	20				
138	Quinquagesima 7*'s set 1h. 8m.		6	47	1	44	0	40	8	24				
142	Spend not on cooks what might		6	46	2	30	13	43	9	22				
153	S. C. Fairfield (buy you books.		6	45	3	17	25	53	10	18				
164	Asb Wednesday. Procy. so. 9h.		6	44	4	22	8	15	11	14				
175	7*'s set 12h. 52m.		6	43	4	50	20	42	11	59				
186	Windy with flurries of snow.		6	41	5	36	2	31	Morn					
197	⊙ Appgee ♂ ♂ 8		6	40	6	25	14	26	0	56				
208	1st Sunday in Lent. Poll. so. 8h. 16m.		6	39	7	12	26	33	1	40				
212	Days 10h. 44m. long		6	38	8	2	89	21	2	33				
223	Sup. C. N Haven Clear & cold.		6	37	8	50	20	15	3	14				
234	good slaying if there be snow		6	36	9	35	2	32	3	58				
245	St. Matthias. 7*'s s. 12h. 30m.	e	6	35	10	18	14	39	4	47				
256	Poll. so. 7h. 56m. (nough.		6	32	11	1	27	25	5	36				
267	Pleasant weather for February.		6	31	11	44	10m	13	rise					
278	2d Sunday in Lent Hyd. H. so. 10h 34m		6	29	6	0M	26	23	7	0				
282	Cloudy and like for a storm.		6	28	6	1	10	7	8	2				

You shall chuse your Books with Care and Circumspection. When you have determin'd that it is Prudent to purchase a certain Work do so cautiously and make a Shrewd Bargain with the Vendor. It will then be your Duty to Peruse the Volume, even if (as doubtless will be the Fact) you have scan'd it before Buying.

Do not let the Importunities of Persons who come to the Library hasten you in the Performance of this Task. They should be Content to wait for the Book until you have Satisfied yourself of its Contents.

There will then remain the Necessity of recording its Acquisition in your Ledgers of Record. As for the Entry of its Style and Title in the Catalogue, many counsel that this is not needful, since you may be expected to remember that the Book has been Purchas'd for the Library. It may, however, occupy your leisure moments. Some would advise that if it be a Volume of Sermons it be placed on the Shelves with others of its like; or if it be a work of Natural Philosophy it stand near the Volumes of that class. This is a waste of Labour.

Assign it a Number which shall correspond to its Position on the Shelf, and shall be the next in Sequence from the latest Book which you have added, and so let them stand in the Order in which they are Receiv'd. For, surely, if you desire to find a number of volumes of Sermons, it will be an easy matter for you, recalling when they were Purchas'd, to pluck them from their several resting-places.

Keep your Books behind stout Gratings, and in no wise let any Person come at them to take them from the Shelf except yourself.

Have in Mind the Counsel of Master Enoch Sneed (that most Worthy Librarian) who says: It were better that no Person enter the Library (save the Librarian Himself) and that the Books be kept in Safety, than that one Book be lost, or others Misplac'd. Guard well your Books,—this is always your foremost Duty.

III Month March begins on Tuesday

*Third of the train, the Month of Mars comes in,
Both Rain and Snow the vernal tide begin;
The god whose son erected mighty Rome
Now lives in written sheet & printed tome,
The warlike Patron of these blust'ring weeks
Led once the Trojans 'gainst th' armed Greeks,
And fitting 'tis your leisure t'employ
In reading of the deeds 'neath windy Troy.*

Last Quarter 5th Day 6h. 12m. Morning.
New Moon 12th Day 5h. 18m. Morning.
First Quarter 20th Day 3h. 48m. Morning.
Full Moon 27th Day 5h. 52m. Afternoon.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c ROS F. Sea & spl R&S

13	St. David S. C. Hartford	♂	♂	6	27	6	1	54	20	57	9	6
24	Saturn sets 9h. 46m.	ss.	♂	6	26	6	2	40	5m	7	10	6
35	Regul. so. 11h. 5m.	Tides increase	♂	6	25	6	3	30	19	35	11	2
46	Cloudy & likely for a storm	☉ P.	♂	6	23	6	4	24	4	19	11	58
57	of rain productive of freshets.			6	22	6	5	20	18	6	Morn	
68	3d Sunday in Lent. [hours fill			6	20	6	6	24	32	48	0	54
72	With study then your	♂	♂	6	19	6	7	23	18	19	1	50
83	But not to read in vain			6	18	6	8	21	2	49	2	44
94	On godless writers spend no time			6	16	6	9	28	16	42	3	35
105	Or ignorant remain.			6	14	6	10	13	0	24	4	36
116	Windy, raw unpleasant ss.	♂	♀	6	12	6	11	1	13	45	5	40
127	weather, cloudy and likely for			6	11	6	11	48	26	45	sets	
138	4th Sunday in Lent much rain	☉	♂	6	10	6	0A.35	9	27	7	4	
142	7* sets 11h. 24m.	♂	♂	6	9	6	1	17	21	55	8	9
153	Sup. C. Windham.			6	7	6	2	5	4	7	9	10
164				6	6	6	2	53	16	5	10	4
175	St. PATRICK. B. E. sets 11h. 29m.			6	4	6	3	39	28	7	10	58
186	Syr. sets 11h. 44m.	☉	Apogee	6	3	6	4	24	9	55	11	44
197	Cloudy & some small rain about			6	1	6	5	11	21	42	Morn	
208	5th Sund. in Lent. this time, ss.	♂	♂	6	0	6	6	1	30	49	0	36
212	♂ then warm for ss.	♂	♂	5	59	7	6	51	15	47	1	37
223	S. C. Norwi. Inf. C. Litch. March			5	58	7	7	43	28	2	2	39
234	With all your books in order, your			5	56	7	8	20	10	30	3	37
245	ease you may enjoy, & pass no idle			5	55	7	9	7	23	17	4	12
256	Moment, your time you must employ.			5	54	7	9	49	6	22	4	50
267	Rain, & perhaps Thunder	♂	♂	5	52	7	10	34	19	42	5	25
278	Sund. before Easter. or Palm Sund.			5	51	7	11	17	3	19	rise	
282	Dirty trav'ling & hollow ground			5	49	7	0M	1	17	20	7	2
293	Yourself must judge the books to buy			5	48	7	0	48	1	31	8	6
304	And let the vulgar rabble cry.			5	46	7	1	39	15	55	9	12
315	Fair weather ends the month.			5	45	7	2	30	0	25	10	10

Matrimony, so maintain'd worthy Master Peleg Gudger, is no fit Diversion for the Librarian, and in truth, I commend his Wisdom in the Matter. The dissipations of Time, the vain Emptinesses of Amusement, the general be-pestement that follows embarkation on this doubtful Sea (doubtful, if not in fact, Perilous) all these concomitants of the Married State so conspire and agree to harass the Librarian and woo him from his legitimate tasks as to behoove him to take a great Oath never to allow himself to be entrapped. Tis the only safe course. Otherwise will he find himself badger'd when he desires to read in Peace; led forth to Domestic Duties when he should be marshalling his Books; and at all times Distract'd & Annoy'd, to the detriment of his Profession.

It is true, there be some who hold to the Contrary. Dr. Simon Bagley writes: I have not found Wives to be altogether a too heavy Encumbrance. They can dust Books, and at times, they may be trusted to arrange the volumes properly in their places. Beyond this, it would perchance, be rash to go with them. I am far from advising Librarians to marry without weighing the Question soberly, and considering it discreetly, but this I do affirm: that a Wife may be train'd to partake in a Librarian's labours in such a way as not altogether to act as a Millstone about his Neck. It is scarce necessary to comment on Dr. Bagley's words. Truly he impeaches his own Contention, by the apologetick fashion of his phrases. Most willingly do I mention the Opinion of that diligent Librarian, Master Enoch Sneed, with whom on this (as on every point in our Profession) I am rejoiced to own myself at one. Steer a straight course, he says, away from feminine Blandishments. These Females are as Leeches or Bloodsuckers, hardly to be torn off. They would make you take your Victuals at certain fix'd seasons to conform to their rules of Housekeeping, regarding not that you may wish to read at those Hours; while again they will Babble & Complain should it chance that after a hard night's reading you ask that a hot Supper be served at Daybreak. Shun them as you would the Devil.

X Month October begins on Saturday.

October spreads his scarlet Banner free
 And hoists his Ensign on the dying tree.
 As some vast giant striding o'er the earth
 With ruddy cheeks & countenance of mirth,
 Tho' ruin follows ever in his track
 Till Frost's chill finger turns the herbage black,—
 Yet cheerful be, and let the glass go round,
 In Wine & some good book your pleasure's found.

New Moon 5th. Day, 10h. 20m. Morning.

First Quarter 12th. Day, 6h. 6m. Morning.

Full Moon 19th. Day, 8h. 48m. Morning.

Last Quarter 27th. Day, 10h. 17m. Morning.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c RDS F.Sea D'spl RDS

17	Arct. sets 8h. 50m. 7* ^s rise 7h. 35m.	6	11	6	8	48	22	1	2	12
2	18th Sunday past Trinity. Warm	6	12	6	9	26	41	29	3	10
3	smoky weather.	6	13	6	10	10	17	9	4	14
4	7* ^s so. 2h. 50m.	6	15	6	10	50	0	4	5	14
5	Cloudy and signs of rain if I mis-	6	16	6	11	31	13	14	●	sets
6	take not. ♀ rises 4h. 16m.	6	17	6	0A.	12	26	42	6	35
7	B. E. so. 3h. 30m. Captain	6	18	6	1	2	10	11	7	15
8	Kidd has passed away, But pub	6	20	6	1	50	24	33	8	0
9	19th Sund. past Trinity (lishers	6	21	6	2	42	8	47	8	48
10	2 Fomel. so. 9h. 41m. remain today.	6	23	6	3	44	23	9	9	44
11	♂ rises 12h. 38m. ● Perigee.	6	24	6	4	42	7	h	40	10
12	Cloudy dull weather. ss. ♀	6	26	6	5	42	22	18	11	53
13	Gen. C. New Haven. □ ♀	6	28	6	6	41	6	32	Morn	
14	Lend not your books to learned	6	29	6	7	36	20	44	0	58
15	men, If you would see your	6	30	6	8	29	4	41	2	14
16	20th Sund. past Trinity. (books	6	32	6	9	22	18	29	13	17
17	2 so. 10h. 44m. again.	6	33	6	10	9	1	52	14	20
18	Warm weather for a day or two	6	34	6	10	55	14	58	5	21
19	4 then blows up cold from the N.	6	36	6	11	41	27	50	●	rise
20	5 What books are pure, What books	6	38	6	0M	28	10	23	6	28
21	6 are sound, These books for sure	6	39	6	1	19	22	43	7	10
22	7 You keep around.	6	41	6	2	8	4	58	7	52
23	8 21st Sunday past Trinity. v. c. ♀	6	43	6	2	53	16	55	8	35
24	2 Ceph. north 9h. 24m. ● Apo.	6	44	6	3	45	28	52	9	20
25	3 K. Geo. 3d. began to reign 1760	6	45	6	4	30	10	50	10	12
26	4 B. so. 2h. 22m. ss. ♀	6	46	6	5	20	22	52	11	10
27	5 Cloudy and it may be rain.	6	47	6	6	5	4	57	Morn	
28	6 Here's Master Duodecimo	6	48	6	6	50	17	10	0	15
29	7 To whom a mighty debt I owe.	6	49	6	7	28	29	29	1	8
30	8 22d Sunday past Trinity.	6	50	6	8	12	12	11	2	7
31	2 The month ends pleasant.	6	51	6	8	51	25	5	3	8

Master Caleb Pingree's Book tells of Dr. Matthew Gully who set out one Day to dust the Books in his Library. But the first Volume which he plucked from the shelf was the works of Herodotus, which he had long desir'd to read yet again, and at leisure, and so enthrall'd did the worthy Dr. Gully become in the writings of the Greek historian, that starting in to peruse the Book, he set it not down till he had read it from Beginning to End.

Thus it happen'd with the next Book, and the next, the excellent Doctor standing before his Book Shelves, holding in one hand the Cloth, wherewith he had purpos'd to wipe off the Dust from the Books, and in the other the Volume which he could not lay aside until he had read it.

So he abode standing, and return'd each Day to his task, yet each Day reading more of the Books, till at last full eighteen Months had pass'd, and Dr. Gully had read every book in the Library. But at that time the Dust lay as thick on the Books whereat he had commenc'd, as ever it had been in the Beginning.

Also there is related an Incident concerning Master Timothy Mason, the same who had his Bed fitted up in the Library, that he might sleep near his Books and thereby not suffer Annoyance when he should be wakeful at Night, and find not the Books at hand.

Master Timothy, being in Charge of a Publick Library, was one day reading diligently when a Member of the Library entered, and presenting his Subscription Ticket begged the Librarian to fetch him a certain Book. Master Timothy being incens'd at this Interruption of his Reading, and Chancing at that Moment to see the Constable passing the Library, did put out his Head from the Window and Bawl loudly for the Constable to come in.

When the latter had enter'd he gave the Member into custody of the Officer, preferring against him a charge of Disturbance of the Peace.

XI Month November begins on Tuesday.

*November's early days, tho' still & mild,
 Presage black winter and his Tempests wild.
 Prepare for cold & hug the chimney nooks,
 Nor fail to make provision for your books,
 The broken window or the roof that leaks
 May ruin all your books these stormy weeks;
 And when all's safe from driving snow or rain,
 Then sit you down & think, with wise Montaigne!*

New Moon 3d Day, 9h. 47m. Afternoon.
 First Quarter 10th Day, 2h. 7m. Afternoon.
 Full Moon 18th Day, 0h. 57m. Morning.
 Last Quarter 26th Day, 6h. 0m. Morning.

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c RDS F.Sea D'spl RDS

13	All Saints.	Inf. C. Hartford	6526	9	31	8	23	4	12
24	Falling weather, & I guess you	6536	10	15	21	53	5	17	
35	will see some flakes of snow.	6546	11	2	5	M47	@sets		
46	7's so. 12h. 53m. P. star north	6556	11	52	19	51	5	48	
57	Gun Powder Plot. (10h. 5m. 6576	0A.43	4	14	6	37			
68	23d Sunday past Trinity.	6586	1	40	18	45	7	36	
72	* 7 & Syr. so. 3h. 45m. • Per.	6596	2	42	3	h 28	8	40	
83	Inf. C. New Haven.	7 05	3	41	18	5	9	40	
94	Cloudy weather and signs of a	7 15	4	40	2	m 37	10	45	
105	storm, which may come to-day.	7 35	5	34	16	57	11	53	
116	P. Star no. 9h. 37m.	7 45	6	29	1	II	1	Morn.	
127	ss 7 ♀ Windy & cold I guess.	7 65	7	21	14	50	0	58	
138	24th Sunday past Trinity.	7 75	8	11	28	21	1	58	
142	Syr. rises 10h. 15m.	7 85	8	57	11	29	2	56	
153	Inf. C. Fairfield.	White frosty	7 95	9	44	24	18	3	50
164	nights.	7 105	10	31	6	56	4	47	
175	(blame me.	7 115	11	19	19	16	5	44	
186	If there is a storm now don't	7 125	0M 5	1	II	23	• rise		
197	B. E. so. 12h. 47m. 7's so. 11.52m.	7 135	0	53	13	22	6	24	
208	25th Sunday past Trinity.	7 145	1	40	25	15	7	14	
212	21 so. 10h. 36m. • Apo. (year	7 155	2	30	7	5	7	59	
223	Pleasant weather for the time of	7 165	3	14	18	56	8	55	
234	When friends betray & politicians	7 175	3	58	0	50	9	58	
245	plot, Turn to your books & mind	7 185	4	40	12	52	11	0	
256	7's so. 11h. 37m. the rascals not.	7 185	5	24	25	5	11	58	
267	Look out for a storm of snow.	7 195	6	2	7	M32	Morn.		
278	Advent Sunday. [high,] ss. ♀	7 205	6	45	20	14	1	0	
282	Books below & books on * •	7 205	7	23	3	17	2	2	
293	I'll read 'em all before I die.	7 215	8	8	16	40	3	1	
304	Cold weather ends the month.	7 225	8	50	0	M22	4	4	

The admirable Timothy Mason (of whom we read last Month) was wont to Walk with a Book held before his Nose, reading as he pass'd along the Street. He looked neither up nor down as he Walk'd, but fixt his Attention upon the Page before him, being somewhat short of Vision, tho' wearing powerful Lenses in his Spectacles. It was his Custom to leave the Library when it lack'd a few Minutes of 6 o'clock in the Evening, he had found that his walk brought him to his Dwelling at the Moment that the Town Clock struck the Hour.

One Evening, in Midsummer, the worthy Librarian set out for his Home, holding before him & reading with Earnestness the Ecclesiastical Polity of the learn'd Hooker. Now, it chanc'd that the Town Clock had become damag'd, the Librarian, hearing not the customary Ringing, strode past his Door (despite the loud cries of his Housekeeper), continu'd down the Street, never for an instant relaxing his Zeal for Reading. At 7 o'clock the Excellent man was still walking in the direction of the neighboring Town, and only at a quarter after 8, when the failing Light caus'd him to glance up, did he perceive that he had travell'd over 6 miles & arriv'd in the Market place of the next Town, having perus'd the greater part of the Ecclesiastical Polity on the journey.

The Librarian was sore perplex'd, for at first he failed to recognize his surroundings, & he was unable to account for the hooting Rabble that dogg'd his Footsteps, in the Custom of such Vulgar Persons when they discover a Stranger of unusual Aspect. He was also at a loss to understand how his Shoes & Hose had become so be-fouled & be-mired, for he was unaware that he had crossed divers Brooks, & forded sundry Water-courses during his journey. It might have fared ill with Master Timothy, had not Master Caleb Perkins, a Brother Librarian, chanc'd to encounter him at that Moment. Through the good offices of this Friend, Master Timothy was provided with comfortable Lodgings for the Night & on the Morrow suitably convey'd to his own Home.

XII Month December begins on Thursday

December ends the train; his whirling Snows
 Bring now the yearly pageant to a close.
 The fields are white & leafless are the trees,
 While Frost commands the ponds & rivers freeze.
 As Books you read when first the Year begun,
 So now read Books when all the year is done;
 And not in Winter, Summer, Spring, nor Fall,
 Neglect to read the greatest Book of all!

New Moon 3d Day, 9h. 27mi. Morning.
 First Quarter 10th Day, 0h. 13m. Afternoon.
 Full Moon 17th Day, 6h. 50m. Morning.
 Last Quarter 25th Day, 11h. 52m. Night

M.W. Kalendar, Weather, &c	R	D	S	F.	Sea	D	's	p	l.	R	D	S
1:5 2l South 9h. 51m.	7	22	5	9	36	14	11	25	5	4		
2 6 Cloudy and you may expect a	7	23	5	10	27	28		47	5	50		
3 7 storm of rain or snow or both.	7	23	5	11	25	13	17				sets	
4 8 2d Sund. in Advent. High tides.	7	24	5	0A.	25	28		9	6	12		
5 2 Syr. rises 8h. 40m.					20	12	h	49	7	20		
6 3 v. c. h 2l h ♂ ♀. * h 7 26 5	1	2	24	27	36	8	28					
7 4 Astrologer what lost (♀ ss. h ♂ 7 26 5	3	24	12	15	9	34						
8 5 thou think such a string of As 7 27 5	4	18	26	42	10	40						
9 6 pects will produce? I think I'll 7 27 5	5	10	10	49	11	44						
10 7 guess an abundance of rain. B. E. 7 28 5	6	0	24	36	Morn.							
11 8 3d S. in Adv. (so. 11h. 12v.c. 2l 7 28 5	6	50	8	Y	3	0	56					
12 2 In buckram suits did Falstaff's men 7 28 5	7	37	21	10	1	58						
13 3 A mighty val'rous battle wage; 7 29 5	8	24	3	55	2	58						
14 4 O' tho' return'd to air again 7 29 5	9	10	16	21	3	56						
15 5 Behold 'em on the printed page. 7 29 5	9	56	28	33	4	54						
16 6 Cold blustering weather with flurries 7 29 5	10	45	10	30	5	50						
17 7 of snow. 7 29 5	11	30	22	23			rise					
18 8 4th Sunday in Advent. 7 29 5	0M	20	4	10	6	0						
19 2 7's so. 9h. 38m. * Apogee. 7 30 5	1	0	15	50	6	32						
20 3 Arc. rises 1h. 0m. (so. * h 8 7 30 5	1	48	27	35	7	14						
21 4 ♂ rises 10h. 22m. ♀ lat. 20 7 30 5	2	28	9	26	8	12						
22 5 Cold weather in excess 7 30 5	3	12	21	17	9	7						
23 6 Or J. B. will lose his guess. 7 30 5	3	49	3	26	10	2						
24 7 B. Eye so. 10h. 11m. 7 29 5	4	29	15	48	11	0						
25 8 Christmas. A bowl of punch. 7 29 5	5	8	28	32	11	58						
26 2 St. Step. (A book of song. Let Chris- 7 29 5	5	48	11	29	Morn.							
27 3 St. John Eoen (mas last 7 29 5	6	32	24	51	1	2						
28 4 Innocents (The whole week long. 7 29 5	7	15	8	35	2	6						
29 5 Syr so. 12h. 1m. Adieu! Farewell! 7 29 5	7	54	22	41	3	15						
30 6 whatever books ye lack Pass not the 7 29 5	8	53	6	59	4	24						
31 7 year without my Almanack! 7 28 5	9	54	21	45	5	34						

There is none so Felicitous as the Librarian, and none with so small a cause of Ill-Content, Jealousy or Rancour. No other Profession is like his; no other so Happy. Of the Clergy, I speak not, their Calling is sacred and not of this World. The Physician & Lawyer administer to the ills and evils of Mankind. The Merchant's happiness is conditioned upon his pecuniary Success.

But the Librarian, so far removed from any of these, ministers to the Wisdom and Delight of Mankind, increases his own Knowledge, lives surrounded by the Noble thoughts of great Minds, and can take no Concern of pecuniary Success, forasmuch as such a thing is not within the boundaries of Possibility.

If any may rival him in good Fortune, it is the Author, who produces some great Work of which the Librarian shall stand as humble Guardian. But even here, again, a little reading suffices to show that Authors have frequently lived in Turmoil or Penury, dying Destitute or wretched, because that Publick Esteem which was necessary to their Contentment had been withheld until long after they had quitted this Earth.

The Librarian, as he cannot hope for Wealth (nor fret his Mind about it), so he cannot expect to achieve Fame. Where is the Monument erected to a Librarian? Great Monarchs and Warriors have theirs; in ancient times it was even a custom thus to honour the Poet. But the Librarian lives and dies unknown to Fame; the durable results of his Labours are not visible to the Eye, and if at all he receiveth Honour it is for his private Character as a Man. His Brother Librarians may know and Esteem him as an Ornament to their Profession, and that is his sufficient Reward.

He lives protected, avaricious neither of Money nor of Worldly Fame, and happy in the goodliest of all Occupations,—the pursuit of Wisdom.

This is the Ending of The Old Librarian's Almanack for Anno Domini 1774. To my learn'd Brethren, I wish all Health and Joy.

A sure and certain cure for the
Bite of a Rattlesnake
Made Publick
by
Abel Puffer
of
Stoughton.

If the Sufferer be Bit in the Leg (as it is very likely to happen) let him be plac'd in a revers'd position ; that is, with his Head down and his Feet in the Air—it may be most convenient to lean him so against a Wall or Fence, or if neither be at hand, then against a Tree or Bush.

Then, without any Delay whatsoever, let there be appli'd to the place where the Fangs have punctur'd the Skin a Plaister made in the following manner : Beat to a soft or pulpy consistency six Plantain leaves that have previously been wash'd. Mingle with them 12 drops of Liquor obtain'd in this fashion : Soak in half a cup of Rain Water the Heart of a large Gander, add a third part of an ounce of the dry'd roots of the Yarrow, some bruis'd Colewort, a spoonful of the Blue Flag, dry'd & powder'd, four or five stalks of the common Pennyroyal, a half-ounce of the Rind of roasted Crab Apples, some preserv'd blossoms of Alecumpane, and eight Peppercorns. This Liquor should simmer slowly for forty-eight hours, and when it is about finish'd, add a few seeds of the Indian Gourd, removing them, however, at the end of an Hour.

When the drops from the resulting Liquor are mix'd with the paste of Plantain leaves, the Plaister should be appli'd on the Wound, and mark that all depends that this is done within ten minutes from the time when the Sufferer was Bitten. (It may be well that a Minister of the Gospel be sent for, if so be it that one is at hand.)

Then require the Sufferer to move his Limbs about, at first slowly, now with increasing speed, till he do thrash them about with all the Vigour and Rapidity in his power. After this, let him rise, and run in a circle, or nearly so, first giving him to drink half a glass of Jamaica Rum. When he be ready to fall from Dizziness (which flushes the Brain with Blood) again apply a second Plaister, like the first. Tokens of improving Health are sure to be seen in the Sufferer, if not, Prayers had better be address'd to Providence.

MS. B. 1. 1. 1.

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